JDW, 4/15/75

What little I've been able to do today, aside from making a rudimentary outline of what I'll be saying at the Univ Md tonight, has been on newsbreaks on a talk show that seems to be going to continue indefinitely. During the first I got my mail. I read it or opened it and read your 4/12 on the second. When it ends, whenever that is, I have to start getting files, etc., together. So, can you find time to do the wditing of The Conning Tower? If not, OK.

The orders for the old book are keeping me occupied full time almost. They are going crazy.

Meanwhile, there has been what I regard as a major development. I got a call today from UPI on the spectro suit.

They appear to be willing, when I've gotten all I expect, to stage a press conference for me! Nonecompetitive!

So, I have this and so much more for which to prepare.

I already have enough, with decent and responsible attention if with some jeopardy to completed but unprinted work, to blow the whole thing up.

But there is a simplification I have obtained that can be the necessaary gimmick. It is so unnew that I had it written before 2/15/65. But this time over the late saint's signature. With masking to enhance.

Not counting the added 50+ pages now in the mail, the neutro.

However, all this takes time and work and I'm short on any chance of time. There arethe further interruptions of five days in NYC and an invite to the [More] convention for Jim and me and all sorts of other stuff.

So, with this elaborate windup/explanatoon/expression of hope, if you can possibly find the time to edit the proposed Times oped pagep piece, I sure would welcome it.

This is hours after I started, what is typical here except before people get up. I ate some cold left-over peas after three hours of well-received vroadcast while the insurance adjuster was here inspecting and photographing the covered wind damage. I've not yet seen a headline or heard a newscast. I'll have to leave soon to meet my ride to the college. The kids are driving me back.

One more word, of hope. My low-key, strict-facts approach, low-keyed at least as I say it and in comparison, is beginning to pay off. I'll be co-keynoting with Lane in NYC and I have to take time for a very careful speech, written. I expect a UPI interview with Cesar and me, my arranging on improvisation, perhaps as early as supper day after tomorrow when I have to be in DC and Lil does not have to be returned from work. On the Ray case and the new precedents.

But imagine if UPI should stage a press conference for me on the spectro! I've said I'd prefer to wait until I have all they'll come up with and this was agrees to be the honorable, responsible approach. I've also suggested that there be an advance briefing with those who have immediate deadlines to meet, like wire service, and unless top management nixes this was agreed to as responsible approach, with a hold until the press conference is over. Why this is like Macy's inviting Gimbel's in! It isn't yet accomplished but it is possible.

But God! what a treadmill! I've got a once-suppressed stack, I mean of the new new only, that will take a night to digest. And I've not had time to look at it.

If only I had a local student or two willing to do some of the minor things to which I have to attend. I intended to sleep until dawn this a.m. so I'd not be tired tonight but then I remembered I hadn t done yesterday's orders, higher than average, so agin up early. I was so tired I got home from taking Lil to work before I realized I had forgotten the post office so back I went, with more than a large grocery box would hold - a box in which 50 books came full. Probably half that many in orders. All packaged before 8 a.m.

It is at once essential and detestable.

We are putting all the income from these books, which I owe, into an escrow account to be able to reprint them. We'll be living on $100 a month, believe it or not, Lil's modest civil service retirement.

Gotta go. Thanks for whatever was enclosed with this letter. I havenst looked yet,